

The Tragedie

He is within and two reuerend Fathers,
Diuinely bent to meditation,
And in no worldly sute would he be mou'd,
To draw him from his holy exercise.

Buc. Returne good *Catesby* to thy Lord againe;
Tell him my selfe, the Maior and Citizens
In deepe designs and matters of great moment,
No lesse importing them then our generall good,
Are come to haue some conference with his grace.

Cat. Ile tell him what you say my Lord.

Buc. A ha my Lord, this Prince is not an *Edward*;
He is not lulling on a leawd day bed,
But on his knees at meditation:
Not dallying with a brace of Curtizans,
But meditating with two deepe Diuines:
Not sleeping to ingrosse his idle body,
But praying to enrich his watchfull soule,
Happy were *England*, would this gracious prince
Take on him selfe the soueraignty thereon,
But sure I feare we shall neuer winne him to it.

Ma. Marry God forbid his grace should say vs nay.

Enter Catesby.

Buc. I feare he will, how now *Catesby*,
What sayes your Lord?

Cat. My Lord he wonders to what end you haue assembled
Such troopes of Citizens to speake with him,
His grace not being warnd thereof before:
My lord, he feares you meane no good to him.

Buc. Sory I am my noble cousin should
Suspect me that I meane no good to him,
By heauen I come in perfect loue to him,
And so once more returne and tell his grace:
When holy and deuout religious men,
Are at their beads, tis hard to daw them hence,
So sweete is zealous contemplation.

Enter Rich, and two Bishops aloft.

Mai. See where he stands betweene two Clergimen.

Buc. Two props of vertue for a Christian Prince:
To stay him from the fall of vanity,

of Richard the Third

Famous *Plantagenet*, most gracious,
Lead fauorable cares to my request:
And pardon vs the interruption
Of thy deuotion and right Christian zeale.

Glo. My Lord, there needs no such
I rather doe beseech you pardon me,
Who earnest in the seruice of my God
Neglect the visitation of my friends:
But leauing this, what is your graces pleasure?

Buc. Euen that I hope which pleaseth
And all good men of this vngouernd Ile.

Glo. I doe suspect, I haue done some
That seeme disgracious in the Cities eye
And that you come to reprehend my ignorance.

Buc. You haue my Lord: would it please
At our intreaties to amend that fault.

Glo. Else wherefore breath I in a Church?

Buc. Then know it is your fault that you
The Supream Seate, the throne, maiestie
The Scepter office of your Ancestors.
The lineall glory of your royall House,
To the corruption of a blemisht stocke
Whilest in the mildenesse of your sleeping
Which heere we waken to your Country
This noble Ile doth want his proper limbe
Her face defac't with scars of infamy,
And almost shouldred in this swallowing
Of blinde forgetfullnesse and darke oblivion
Which to recouer we hartily solieite
Your gracious selfe to take on you the soveraigne
Not as *Protector*, *Steward*, *Substitute*,
Nor lowly factor for an others gaine?
But as successiue from blood to blood
Your right of birth your Emperie, your
For this conformed with the Citizens,
Your worshipfull and very louing friends
And by there vehement instigation,
In this iust sute come I to mone your Grace.
Glo. I know not whither to depart in this

Famous

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